# Town of Washington News and Calendar



March 2007

### **Election News**

Following the February 20 primary election, the following persons will advance to the general election on April 3:

For Chairman: Tim Jessen; Carol Stayton.

For Supervisor: Randy Sorensen, Ron Overdahl, Louis

Munao and Jerry Rupiper.

Candidates for the School Board are: Pat Schutz, Amy Jorgenson, Bob Brown and Valerie Fons.

There will be public forums for the School Board Candidates on March 3 at 10:00 am in the School Commons; and for the Town Board candidates at Noon on March 10 in the Community Center.

# WI Community Health Program Awarded Major Grant

On Wednesday January 24, 2007 the Washington Island

Community Health Program (WICHP) was awarded a Program Development Grant of \$65,000 from the Helen Bader Foundation, Milwaukee, WI. The grant will be dispersed over three years: Year 1: \$25,000, Year 2: \$25,000 and Year 3: \$15,000. The presentation of the grant was made at a luncheon in Milwaukee

Winter arrived on the Island in earnest on Sunday, February 25, as a winter storm dropped more than a foot of snow, resulting in school being cancelled on Monday. The last time the Island had that much snow was the winter of 1996-97, and more is predicted.

attended by Carole Machek, program coordinator of WICHP.

This grant will help implement the Washington Island Community Health Program, which is dedicated to enabling older island residents to "age in place." This will be accomplished by empowering residents to maintain safe and independent lifestyles and to make informed decisions about their health throughout their lives. The relative isolation of our Island required development of supportive health care services

that are both island-based and that create functioning linkages with other, existing services that can be brought to the Island. Health care services developed by WICHP will be designed to encourage lifestyles that promote healthy aging, assist with optimal day-today management of chronic diseases, connect with skilled service providers on the

mainland, work with countybased services and create or connect with supportive in-home services such as respite care.

Continued on reverse.

The Helen Bader Foundation, Inc. is a philanthropic leader in improving the quality of life of the diverse communities in which it works. The Foundation makes grants, convenes partners, and shares knowledge to affect emerging issues in several areas. Washington Island's Grant is awarded through their Alzheimer's and Aging Program. On January 24, 2007, twenty one different projects from Wisconsin received awards totaling \$838,600.

Prior to her death in 1989, Helen Bader's work with older adults brought home to her the many issues of aging. In her name, the Helen Bader Foundation supports worthy organizations working in key areas affecting the quality of life in Wisconsin. The Foundation also seeks to inspire the generosity in others, as each of us can make a difference through gifts of time, talent and resources.

## Dick Hecker, PA, hired by North Shore Medical Clinic

Physician's Assistant Dick Hecker has been hired by North Shore Medical Clinic to staff the Washington Island Clinic. He will begin work at the Clinic in mid-March.

Hecker is very familiar with Washington Island, having begun his career as the Island's health care provider from 1983 to 1985. His wife, Gay, is the daughter of Islanders Dick and Barb Ellefson. Most recently he has been associated with the Tiffany Square Family Practice in Englewood, Florida; and was employed in the emergency department of Osseo Area Hospital, Osseo, Wisconsin, from 1995 to 2005. In 2005 he provided care at the North Shore Medical Clinics in Fish Creek and Algoma.

Hecker is currently certified in Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Advanced Trauma Life Support and Pediatric Advanced Life Support.

Dr. Donald Whitenack continues to provide health care on the Island until Hecker begins.

North Shore Medical Clinic, working closely with the Island's Clinic Advisory Committee and the Island Medical Committee, is continuing to interview candidates for the second midlevel position at the Washington Island Clinic.

### St. Patrick's Day Parade

Don't miss the gala St. Patrick's Day Parade with Grand Marshall Tim Jessen – AKA the Island's largest leprechaun. The nationally-registered and colorful parade will step off from in front of the REA at 11:00 am on March 17 and will end at Karly's, where corned beef and cabbage will be served all day.

# Lu Beekman joins Town Office staff as Deputy Clerk and Utility District Secretary

Lu Beekman will begin as Deputy Clerk and Utility District Secretary in the Town Office as of March 1. She replaces Faith Overdahl, who resigned the position after serving for four years.

Before moving to the Island in 2005, Lu was office manager of Great Lakes Valuation Services in Menominee, MI. She also served as a cartographer and computer operator for the Menominee County Equalization Department. With her husband, Steve, she operated a long-haul trucking business for three years, obtaining a CDL endorsement. Lu is an active member of the Gislason-Richter American Legion Auxiliary and the Detroit Harbor Ladies Aid Society.

Dulla honkouse

Town Chairman